

MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 1917.

The Board of Public Works of Maryland met at the office of the Governor, in the City of Annapolis, March 16, 1917. Present Governor Emerson C. Harrington; Comptroller Hugh A. McMullan and Treasurer John M. Dennis.

The Minutes of January 25th were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Board that the School Board of Anne Arundel County had moved into the office formerly occupied by the State Board of Education and had accepted verbally the Board's offer of said building at a rental of \$500 per annum.

Mr. McMullan moved that a lease be executed with said School Board at a rental of \$500. per annum subject to vacation on 30 days notice and with the provision that said building be kept open for the inspection of the public. Motion carried.

The following bills were passed and ordered paid from the contingent fund of the Board:

National Towel Supply Company,	\$ 3.50
J. Ben Brown, for examining State House, etc,	38.00

Mr. McMullan moved that the bill of the Builders Exchange for rental of offices for the Maryland State Board of Plumbing for \$83.33 be referred to Attorney General Ritchie to determine whether the same should be paid by the Board or by said Plumbing Commission. Motion carried.

The Governor was authorized to investigate, through the Attorney General, and pay the bill, if correct.

Letter from John M. Dennis, Treasurer, relating to ground rent of \$448.11 on State Tobacco Warehouse was read. On motion the Attorney General was directed to inquire into the right of the State to buy same and ascertain whether the fund now to the credit of the State Tobacco Warehouse can be used for that purpose, and if found not redeemable the Attorney General was authorized to negotiate for the purchase of same, and report result. Motion carried.

A letter dated March 3, 1917, from Harry J. Hopkins, Chief Clerk in the Comptroller's Office, relating to the issuance of registered ^{certificate} ~~certified~~ stock as a substitute for the

State Coupon Bonds referred to in said letter, was read.

The following Resolution was thereupon unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland has issued in coupon form at sundry times, various loans of the State of Maryland, viz:

Three Million Dollar loan of 1916, Act. 1916, Ch. 681.
Treasury Relief Loan of 1916, Act 1916, Ch. 142.
State Roads Loan of 1914, Act 1914, Ch. 267.
State Omnibus Loan of 1914, Act 1914, Ch. 791.
Technical School Loan of 1912, Act 1912, Ch. 90.
Second Insane Hospital Loan, Act 1912, Ch. 187.
State Loan of 1912, Act 1912, Ch. 370.
Consolidated State Loan of 1913, Act 1912, Ch. 749.
Maryland State Normal School Loan, Act 1912, Ch. 776.
State Insane Hospital Loan, Act 1910, Ch. 250. p. 234.
Sanatorium Loan, Act 1910, Ch. 411, page 240.
Public Highways Loan, Act 1910, Ch. 116. p. 307.
State Roads Loan, Act 1908, Ch. 141, p. 254..
Public Buildings Loan, Act 228, 1904; and

WHEREAS, a large part of the bond issues above recited are now owned by the State of Maryland and held in its several sinking funds; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Public Works is desirous of exchanging all of said coupon bonds of the State of Maryland as are now owned by the State of Maryland in its several sinking funds, for registered certificates which shall, respectively, be for the aggregate amount of the bonds of each issue owned by the State, and to this end desires to surrender said coupon bonds and to cause to be issued in lieu thereof registered certificates as aforesaid, the said coupon bonds to be thereupon cancelled; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney General, Hon. Albert C. Ritchie, in his opinion to Hon. Hugh A. McMullan, Comptroller, of February 19, 1917, advised the Comptroller that the Governor, the Comptroller and the Treasurer had the power so to do;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED, That the Governor, the Comptroller and the Treasurer do hereby authorize and direct that all of the coupon bonds aforesaid be surrendered and exchanged for registered certificates which shall, respectively, be for the aggregate amount of the bonds of each issue owned as aforesaid by the State, and that to this end proper registered certificates be prepared, executed and issued in lieu of the coupon bonds so surrendered, and upon the issue of such registered certificates the said coupon bonds be cancelled.

Mr. Hopkins reported to the Board the result of correspondence with engravers and lithographers relating to the cost of preparing the certificates.

Moved that bid of Security Bank Note Company of Philadelphia for \$168.00 or less be accepted. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. McMullen the Board directed the Attorney General to prepare the form of said certificate. Motion carried.

The matter of the rental of Pier 8 Light Street Wharf period subsequent to May 1, 1917, was taken up and considered.

Moved that the Secretary be directed to write and ask present lessors, the M. D. & V. Ry. Co, whether the company

desired to lease the wharf after said date and if so to state the terms of the proposition they will submit and to ask reply prior to Thursday March 29th, 1917. Motion carried.

Motion carried to refer to Mr. John M. Dennis the question of ascertaining rental value of said property.

Mr. McMullen moved that the State Road Commission be directed to furnish the Secretary of State's Office a list of all real estate, if any, acquired by them for use of the State and if any to file deeds, or copies thereof, with the Board of Public Works. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. McMullen the Books of the State Road Commission were directed to be audited from January 1st, 1908 to the present time. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the correspondence which has passed between the Comptroller of the Treasury, the Governor, the Attorney General, etc., with Hon. A. P. Gorman, Jr, relating to taxation of the property of the Baltimore & Ohio and Belt Line Railroad, and on motion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

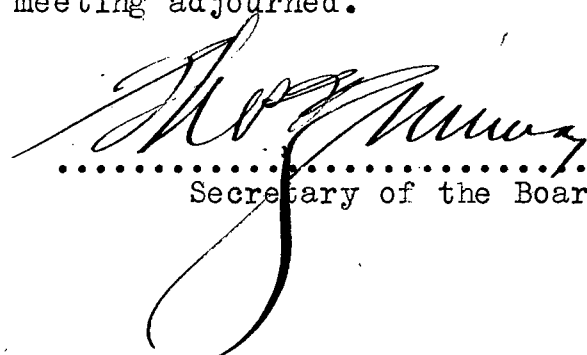
RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of the Board of Public Works that the investigation of the facts necessary to be obtained in order to determine whether or not the Belt Line Railroad is indebted to the State for Gross Receipt Taxes and that the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad owns taxable securities approximately \$250,000, escaping taxation, is within the province of the State Tax Commission, and if such investigation shows that the Belt Line Railroad is so indebted or the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad owns property escaping taxation, that it is the province and duty of the State Tax Commission to make, or cause to be made, the proper assessments.

That the Board of Public Works will render every assistance that it can legally render to the State Tax Commission towards this end, and upon the assessment being made, the Comptroller, or the Board of Public Works, will do all within their power to collect the taxes so levied.

On motion by Mr. McMullen: That the Attorney General be instructed to proceed to collect, by suit, from the present and former Secretaries of State any moneys that may be due the State of Maryland, by reason of their retention of fees or other moneys belonging to the State of Maryland. Passed.

The Treasurer reported the purchase of \$30,000, 3 1/2 % State Bonds at 97 3/4 for the State Accident Fund.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned.


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Secretary of the Board.